

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Takafumi ATARASHI, et al



Docket No: Q53451

Appln. No.: 09/254,005

Group Art Unit: 1773

Confirmation No.: 6345

Examiner: K. Kruer

Filed: March 1, 1999

For: CONSOLIDATED MATERIAL OF COATED POWDERS AND PROCESS FOR  
PRODUCING THE SAME

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the outstanding final Office Action dated March 5, 2002. Please consider Applicants' remarks as follows.

Claims 1, 3 and 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by or, in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,763,085 to Atarashi et al.

With respect to the limitation that the particles form a "three-dimensional article", the

Examiner considered that any article/object inherently has three dimensions such that this limitation does not distinguish over the toner of Atarashi et al. Particularly, the Examiner cited Atarashi et al as disclosing that the particles may be consolidated as a toner (column 9, line 37), a heat-dissipating sheet (column 13, line 19) or for use in heat dissipation of electronic parts (column 13, lines 13-19).

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